

Message Text

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46

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 SSO-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-14 PC-15 PRS-01 PA-04

USIE-00 HEW-08 AGR-20 NSCE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03

SS-20 INRE-00 DRC-01 /210 W
----- 013597

O 151730Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3960

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMSIXTHFLT

DOD WASHDC

UNCLAS TUNIS 6962

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL: TS

SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 4 - TUNISIAN FLOODS

FOR DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR, CINCEUR FOR FDRC LTC R. KIMBALL

1. WEATHER CONTINUES TO BE GOOD AND FURTHER IMPROVEMENT
PREDICTED. DRAINOFF PROCEEDING AND LAND DRYING. POCKETS OF
FLOODING, HOWEVER, REMAIN. IN SOUSSE-KAIROUAN REGION TEN
VILLAGES ARE ESTIMATED TO BE CUT OFF. SOUSSE WITHOUT WATER.
ALL MAJOR ROADS NOT OPEN EXCEPT FOR THOSE LEADING TO GABES,
WHICH REMAINS ISOLATED. ACCORDING TO PRIME MINISTER, ACCOMPANIED
BY COL. BUTLER ON AIR RECONNAISSANCE TODAY, APPROXIMATELY 61
PERSONS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY NOW KNOWN TO BE DEAD BECAUSE OF FLOOD.

2. TUNISIAN OFFICIALS TENTATIVELY AGREE WITH OUR CURRENT
ESTIMATES THAT U.S. OPERATIONS CAN TERMINATE BY NIGHT DEC 16.

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CAPT MATHEWS, CM ANPHIBIOUS SQUADRON 10, WAS INFORMED DURING COORDINATION VISIT TUNIS EARLIER TB-6.

3. OPERATIONS OUT OF SOUSSE-MONASTIR COMMENCED ON DEC 15 AT 0815 WITH THREE CH-46 AIRCRAFT. ONE CH-5G DELAYED DUE TO PUMP FAILURE. TWO ADDITIONAL CH-46S AND ONE QI-1 ARRIVED TUMDU-/ ARTHAGE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FROM IWO JIMA APPROXIMATELY 1200. OPERATIONS OF THESE AIRCRAFT CONSISTED OF SOME SEARCH AND RESCUE BUT MOSTLY OF SUPPLY FERRYING FROM SOUSSE TO VILLAGES AND FROM TUNIS TO SOUSSE, GABES, GAFSA AND KAIROUEN AREAS. SUPPLIES FERRIED FROM TUNIS INCLUDED TEN TONS OF BLANKETS, FOOD, TENTS AND MEDICINES. APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN TONS OF SIMILAR MATERIAL REMAIN TO BE DELIVERED. BSR AIRCRAFT ALSO FERRIED TUNISIAN STATE POLICE (P N UENDE NATIONALE) UNIT.

ITALIANS HAVE ASSUMED TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KAIROUAN OPERATIONS WITH FIVE CARGO HELICOPTERS INVOLVED. FRENCH HAVE MADE TWO SUPPLY FLIGHTS WITH FIXED WING TRANSCRAFT, BUT DESTINATIONS UNKNOWN. TWO LIBYAN HELICOPTERS ALSO REIT JEDGU WORKING OUT OF JERBA BUT NOT UNDER CONTROL OF TUNIS OPERATIONS CENTER.

5. RE EARLIER REPORTS OF GOT APPROACH TO VOLAGS (SEE SITREP 1), CARE REPORTS NO RPT NMAIGDCT OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR NEW SUPPLIES. LOCAL NEEDS BEING MET BY DRAWING ON IN-COUNTRY STOCKS. RECOMMEND THIS INFO BE CONVEYED TO CARE HEADQUARTERS NEW YORK.

6. MISSION ESTIMATE BASED ON COST FIGURES SUBMITTED BY COMSIXTHFLT (151413Z DEC 73) WILL NOT RPT NOT SUBSTANTIALLY EXCEED INITIAL ALLOCATION.

7. PRIME MINISTER PERSONALLY EXPRESSED TO COL. BUTLER GOT'S DEEP GRATITUDE FOR USG ASSISTANCE.
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8. NEXT AND ANTICIPATED FINAL SITREP WILL BE SUBMITTED MONDAY, DEC 17.
SEELYE

NOTE BY OC/T: TUNIS 6962 GARBLED TEXT AS RECEIVED, CORRECTION TO FOLLOW

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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